

# FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

54-1	Boston North	BA	BLM.237
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**Town/City:** Belmont

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*):  
Wellington Hills (Belmont Hill)

**Address:** 89 Fletcher Road

**Historic Name:** Henry B. Jackson House

**Uses:** Present: single family dwelling

Original: single family dwelling

**Date of Construction:** 1935

**Source:** building permit

**Style/Form:** English Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Derby Barnes & Champney, arch.;  
F.C. Alexander, bldr.

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: concrete

Wall/Trim: brick

Roof: slate

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

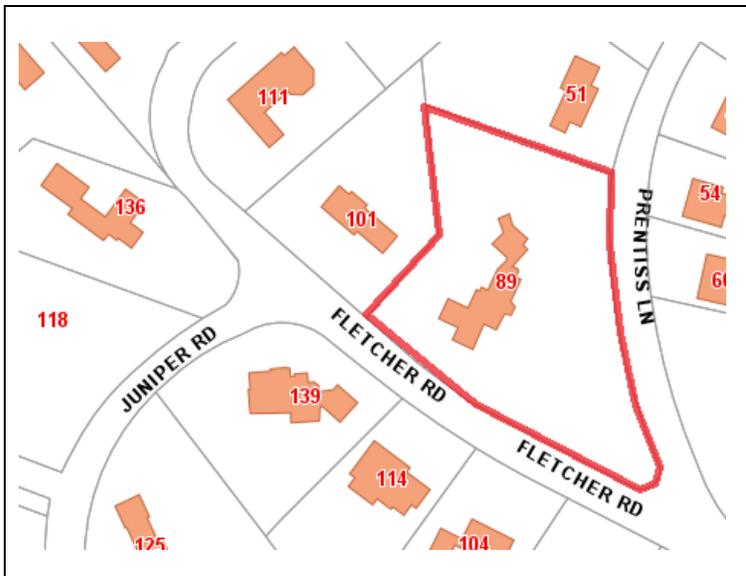
**Acreage:** 54,830 SF

**Setting:** set on hill above the intersection of Fletcher Road and Prentiss Lane

## Photograph



## Locus Map (north at top)



**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** Belmont Historic District Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): July 2014

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

BELMONT

89 FLETCHER ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

One of the most distinguished early 20<sup>th</sup> century "Manor" houses on Belmont Hill, 89 Fletcher Road is a large brick dwelling constructed in 1935 and designed by Boston architects Derby, Barnes, and Champney. The eclectic dwelling is constructed of brick with brick trim including window surrounds and belt courses. It is capped by a slate roof with a gable parapet on one end and a hip slope on the other, multiple gable wall dormers and massive chimneys with multiple shafts. The mix of openings includes individual windows and bands of multi-light casements that can be seen in semi-circular arched openings or rectangular openings with label molds or topped by square multi-light transoms. Projecting from the east elevation is a two-story polygonal projection with continuous casement windows with transoms.

The property is enhanced by its integrity and its siting and landscaping. The main entrance on the west façade faces a circular driveway and a brick garden wall encloses the rear yard. A brick wall with brick posts marks the walkway from the street to the house. A stuccoed garage with tool room is attached to the north end of the house.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

The construction of this house took place as part of the second phase of development of the Belmont Hill Associates which was laid out in 1925. This land was sold by the Belmont Hill Associates to Mary F. Jackson, wife of Henry B. Jackson, on December 28, 1934 (Book 5897, Page 18). In May 1935 Henry B. Jackson was granted a building permit for the construction of a brick house with an estimated value of \$34,500. The house was designed by Boston architects Derby, Barnes and Champney and was to be constructed by F.C. Alexander of Boston.

Henry B. Jackson was a teacher at the Belmont Hill School from 1928 to 1940. In 1942 the house was sold by Mary Jackson to Alice Blake Burns, wife of John J. Burns (Book 6611, Page 481). John J. Burns (1901- 1957) was a lawyer. He served as Professor of Law at Harvard from 1928 until 1931 and then served as Associate Justice of the Superior Court of Massachusetts until 1934. He worked in Washington until 1938 and then returned to Boston to practice law. After his death in 1957 the house was sold by Mrs. Burns to Arthur and Marion Lilley (Book 10184, Page 311). The house was owned by Steven Green from 1982 to 1991 when it was sold to John and Hasmig Chaglassian. The family still owns the property today.

The 1935 building permit lists the architects of the house as Derby, Barnes and Champney, who would also design the nearby houses at 56 & 94 Juniper Road several years later, in 1939. The lead architect of the firm, Richard Derby (1878-1936), grew up in Concord and graduated from MIT. He practiced for a number of years with Thomas P. Robinson (Derby and Robinson) and specialized in domestic architecture (see 41 Tyler Road). No other information was found concerning the works of the other members of the firm of Derby, Barnes and Champney - David D. Barnes and George M. Champney.

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